WAS ISRAEL PART OF THE CONSPIRACY TO KILL JFK?

By Jim DeBrosse

CIA spy chief James Jesus Angleton (left) and Canadian lawyer Louis Bloomfield (right) have both been linked to the plot to kill US President John F. Kennedy. (Wikimedia Commons)

With America's leaders eager to supply billions of dollars in weapons to Israel for the genocidal war in Gaza and its world-destabilizing goal of a "Greater Israel," it's hard to imagine that an American president ever dared to oppose Israel's colonialist and military ambitions.

John F. Kennedy was arguably the last US president to seek active restraints on Israel's dominance of both the Middle East and US foreign policy.

In the early 1960s, Kennedy attempted: to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons into the tinder box of the Middle East by blocking Israel's development of a bomb; to establish a more balanced US relationship with Arab countries in the region; to return at least some Palestinian refugees to their rightful homes; and to demand that pro-Israel lobbyists in the US register as foreign agents.

Israel's leaders perceived JFK's presidency as an existential threat to their fledgling nation. And there is mounting historical evidence that Israel's intelligence services likely played a key role in financing and covering up JFK's assassination.

A document released in 2023 from the JFK archive reveals that Reuben Efron, a lieutenant colonel in the US Army and a Jewish immigrant from Lithuania, was reading purported triggerman Lee Harvey Oswald's private mail years prior to the JFK assassination as part of a closely-held CIA surveillance program.

The program was led by James Jesus Angleton, the agency's counterterrorism chief and its liaison to the Mossad, Israel's overseas spy agency. Efron, a Zionist whose mother died in the Holocaust, later emigrated from the US to live in Jerusalem.

JFK assassination documents released in 2025 show that Angleton used Mossad operatives to spy on Cuba following the Bay of Pigs fiasco.

The killing of Lee Harvey Oswald

Evidence that Angleton was at the very center of the JFK assassination conspiracy has been compiled by many respected JFK researchers, including former army intelligence analyst John M. Newman and former Washington Post reporter Jefferson Morley, founder and editor of the JFK Facts Substack.

The testimony and interviews of Gerry Patrick Hemming, a mercenary and former CIA asset, provides further evidence of connections between JFK's assassins and the Zionist-backed, terrorist-financing organization known as CMC-Permindex.

Signs of Israel's involvement in the Kennedy assassination have been ignored for more than 60 years by a mainstream media that still clings to the lies and omissions of the Warren Report, the official, but widely discredited, US government investigation into the assassination.

Even more shamefully, the vast majority of independent researchers who recognize the Warren Report as a botched attempt at a cover-up have failed to explore the Israeli connection for fear of being marginalized and, of course, labeled anti-Semitic.

For those willing to look at all the facts, there is evidence of a broad conspiracy to assassinate Kennedy, led by rogue elements of the CIA, Israel's leaders and intelligence officials, the national crime syndicate under the leadership of Zionist gangster Meyer Lansky, and the French underground army of assassins known as the Organisation de l'Armée Secrète (OAS).

There were certainly motives other than the Zionist ones at play in the conspiracy to murder Kennedy. He withheld air support during the infamous "Bay of Pigs" invasion of Cuba in 1961, embittering the defeated anti-Castro rebels. There are also indications, in at least one National Security Action Memo, 263, that JFK wanted to withdraw American troops from Vietnam after his likely reelection in 1964.

And his brother, US Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, had vowed to crack down on organized crime in America, infuriating many mobsters who believed they were responsible for helping JFK gain the winning edge in the swing states of West Virginia and Illinois against Richard Nixon in 1960. These efforts to combat organized crime in America essentially ended after JFK was murdered.

Mob boss Meir Lansky ran guns into Palestine for Zionist militias in the 1940s. (Wikipedia)

All three of these factors were major sources of dangerous animosity towards the president on the part of right-wing elements, organized crime and the most stridently anti-communist faction in the CIA that most JFK researchers agree ultimately led to the murder of JFK in 1963.

Nonetheless, the Israeli link is the focus of this article in the hope of countering its marginalization by researchers over the decades.

First of all, consider the links between Israel's Mossad and the OAS, the rebellious secret faction of the French military determined to assassinate French President Charles de Gaulle for overseeing his country's withdrawal from Algeria. Both the OAS and the Mossad shared a deep hatred and distrust of Arabs.

CIA documents show that French OAS assassin Jean Souetre was present in Dallas on the day of the assassination.

There were also deep connections between Israel and Meyer Lansky, a mob boss at the top of America's national crime syndicate. Lansky, a Zionist, had run guns to Jewish terrorists in Palestine in 1945 and later in life tried unsuccessfully to emigrate to Israel.

Lansky was connected to two gangsters closely involved in the JFK assassination plot. The first of these was Jack Ruby, who shot and killed Lee Harvey Oswald before the supposed killer of JFK could testify. "I'm just a patsy," Oswald had famously said after his arrest.

The second was Eugene Hale Brading (aka Jim Braden). An ex-convict with known ties to a group of hitmen, Brading was also a suspected courier for Lansky. He was stopped by Dallas police for suspicious behavior in a Dealey Plaza office building minutes after the JFK assassination. Brading, who used numerous aliases and had a long criminal history, was taken in for questioning but released.

JFK's attorney general Robert F. Kennedy (left) vowed to crack down on organized crime, yet the CIA was often covertly working hand-in-glove with the mob. (Wikipedia)

On the night Democratic Party presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy was killed, Brading was once again found in Los Angeles just a mile from the hotel where the younger Kennedy was gunned down. RFK was not only JFK's brother, but his attorney general.

Brading was later questioned by police, according to JFK researcher Peter Noyes who interviewed the LAPD officer involved. No charges were filed and Brading does not seem to have been arrested.

Ruby – Oswald's killer – was by no means the small-time pawn of organized crime dismissed by the Warren Commission. By way of the Teamsters Union and the Chicago underworld, he rose to the top of the Dallas area mob. In the early 1950s, Ruby – who used his original surname Rubenstein at the time – befriended Lewis McWillie, the manager of Lansky's casino operation in Havana. Several months after Castro's takeover in 1959, Ruby made an unexplained six-day visit to Cuba, where some believe he secured the release of mob boss Santos Trafficante from a Cuban detention camp.

Investigators for the House Select Committee on Assassinations (HSCA), the short-lived 1976 follow-up to the Warren Commission, found that Ruby had made a minimum of 12 phone calls to at least five organized crime figures in the months and weeks leading up to the JFK assassination.

According to the HSCA, seven of those calls were to one individual: Lewis McWillie, of whom FBI records established that he "at least knew Santos Trafficante, the powerful Florida Mafia leader who played a role in the assassination conspiracies against Fidel Castro."

And shortly before killing Oswald, Ruby had talked on the phone with Al Gruber, a henchman for Lansky's West Coast operative Mickey Cohen.

Whatever his reasons, Ruby claimed to fear that a backlash against Jews would follow the Kennedy assassination.

In his 1994 autobiography, My Life as a Radical Lawyer, Ruby's defense attorney William Kunstler wrote that Ruby repeatedly told him that he had killed Oswald "so they wouldn't implicate Jews." On Kunstler's last visit to his jail cell, Ruby handed him a note that stressed again his wish to protect Jews from a pogrom that he feared would follow the nation's outrage over the assassination of JFK.

Jack Ruby, the mob operative who assassinated JFK fall guy Lee Harvey Oswald. (Wikipedia)

With a few notable exceptions, JFK researchers cautiously avoid any reference to Jews or Israel in their findings.

In Coup D'états in America, first released in 1975, authors Alan J. Weberman and Michael Canfield quote an FBI informant who was in the process of selling weapons to a Cuban exile group just prior to the JFK assassination. The informant reported that a member of the exile group told him the day before the assassination that "we now have plenty of money – our new backers are the Jews – as soon as they take care of JFK."

While JFK was trying to stop the introduction of nuclear weapons into the volatile Middle East, the CIA's Angleton, who had long and close ties to Israel's Mossad, helped hide Israel's secret nuclear program from Kennedy.

And according to the HSCA testimony of New York Times reporter Tad Szulc, Angleton even provided US technical assistance and access to the enriched US plutonium that Israel needed to produce its bombs.

Szulc later said that Angleton confirmed most of the story to him, but denied providing enriched plutonium.

Angleton's role in hiding Israel's nuclear development from US officials has been documented for decades in articles and books, including Avner Cohen's Israel and the Bomb (1999) and, most recently, Jefferson Morley's The Ghost: The Secret Life of CIA Spymaster James Jesus Angleton (2017).

Morley wrote in June that the latest declassified pages of Angleton's testimony before the Senate in 1975 are so heavily redacted that they neither confirm nor deny Angleton's involvement in Israel's nuclear effort. What's clear, Morley says, is that any public discussion of Israel's nuclear weapons – which by most international estimates is at least 90 warheads – is still forbidden among Washington officials.

Mossad-CIA

Perhaps even more secretive is the history of the working relationship between the CIA and Mossad.

When the administration of US President Jimmy Carter "abruptly cut back [CIA] intelligence liaison with Israel," Seymour Hersh wrote in his 1991 book The Samson Option, the Israelis thought that Carter's men "perhaps did not fully understand how entwined Israel's primary intelligence agency, Mossad, had become with the CIA during the Cold War."

Hersh went on to write that "the complex amalgamation of American financing and Israeli operations remains one of the great secrets of the Cold War."

A month after the JFK assassination, Israel's nuclear reactor at Dimona went critical.

President Lyndon B. Johnson, an unwavering Zionist sympathizer, reversed Kennedy's course on the Middle East and established the unquestioning support for Israel that still exists today. Johnson looked the other way as Israel developed its secret nuclear stockpile and began the first shipments of US offensive arms to Israel.

JFK's opposition to Israel's nuclear weapons development wasn't his only threat to Israel's leaders. It seems that Kennedy believed in the right of return for the 750,000 Palestinians that were expelled by Zionist forces as part of the establishment of Israel in 1948.

Two articles appeared in The New York Times on 21 November 1963 – the day before JFK's assassination – detailing US efforts at the United Nations to allow Palestinian refugees to return to present-day Israel. They were headlined: "Israel Dissents as UN Group Backs US on Arab Refugees" and "US Stand Angers Israel."

New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison at a December 1968 press conference. Garrison charged one of Permindex's directors with conspiring to murder JFK. Clay Shaw was acquitted, but remains the only person to be brought to trial for the JFK plot. Jack ThornellAP Photo

In addition, in 1962, the Department of Justice, under Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, argued that the American Zionist Council – a precursor to AIPAC – was being funded by the Jewish Agency for Israel and ordered the council to register as a foreign agent.

That order was quietly dropped in 1966 by the Johnson administration and, in 1967, an American Zionist Council front group was renamed and reorganized as the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) without having to register as a foreign agent.

"Follow the money" has long been an investigative guide for both journalists and lawyers.

New Orleans prosecutor Jim Garrison, the hero of Oliver Stone's epic conspiracy film JFK, suspected with good reason that the financial source for the Kennedy assassination was the phony international trade promotion group CMC-Permindex.

Basel-based Permindex (short for Permanent Industrial Exposition), and its Rome-based parent company, Centro Mondiale Commerciale (Italian for World Trade Center), was a labyrinthine money laundering scheme for moving tens of millions of dollars in order to finance acts of right-wing espionage. These included everything from political bribes to terrorist bombings and the assassinations of left-leaning leaders.

CMC-Permindex had ties to any number of right-wing international counter-intelligence operatives and their supporters, from ex-Nazis to Zionists. The Italian leftist newspaper Paesa Sera and the Montreal newspaper Le Devoir were the first to report on the workings of CMC-Permindex in articles published in March 1967.

Paesa Sera wrote that the CMC may have been "the creature of the CIA ... set up as a cover for the transfer of CIA ... funds in Italy for illegal political-espionage activities."

As well as planning the failed "Generals' Putsch" of 1961, the Organisation Armée Secrète (OAS) twice tried to assassinate French President Charles de Gaulle. Right-wingers inside the French state wanted to stop de Gaulle withdrawing from France's colony in Algeria. (Wikipedia)

Both Permindex and CMC were expelled from their respective countries in 1962. The year before, in September 1961, French President Charles de Gaulle had narrowly escaped an attempt on his life using a roadside bomb. Then in 1962, before the expulsions, de Gaulle narrowly survived another assassination attempt when a hit squad sprayed his Citroën with bullets. He escaped unharmed, joking, "they are such bad shots."

Underground factions of the French army never forgave de Gaulle for withdrawing French troops from Algeria during its war of independence. As they saw it, he was handing over the French colony to Arab rebels, after nearly 26,000 French soldiers had been killed in suppressing the uprising.

The OAS also hated Kennedy for having pressured de Gaulle to leave Algeria.

The far-right OAS included Nazi sympathizers in its ranks and was alleged to be backed by the CIA. After reports in the French press, believed to be fed by the French government, that the CIA had been involved in a failed 1961 coup attempt against de Gaulle, the Kennedy administration privately made clear to France that the US president himself had not been involved.

Could the CIA, via CMC-Permindex, have funded the OAS assassination attempts on de Gaulle? It seems possible.

The connection of the trade groups to the OAS might not seem relevant to the JFK assassination until another piece of evidence is added to the puzzle.

Two days after JFK was killed, Jean René Souetre, an assassin for the OAS, was secretly deported from the US. He had spent the morning of the assassination in Fort Worth, where Kennedy had given a speech in front of the Hotel Texas, and the afternoon of that day in Dallas, where Kennedy was assassinated.

JFK researcher Mary Ferrell stumbled upon the supporting classified document among the thousands that were released by the CIA prior to 1977. The photocopied memo was heavily redacted with a magic marker. But by using strong backlighting and a powerful magnifying glass, Ferrell was able to make out its contents. The memo was later released by the CIA under its Historical Review Program.

Jean Souetre was a French army captain who joined the Organisation Armée Secrète